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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 26 July 1950

SUBJECT Diesel Fuel Situation of  
Soviet Zone Railroad

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- 25X1 1. In a circular issued by the Operations Department of the Erfurt Railroad District Administration dated 3 April 1950, all railroad stations were informed that further allocations of diesel fuel for shunting locomotives and motor rail coaches would not be forthcoming before the end of October 1950.
2. In this circular it was suggested that diesel fuel be either procured through commercial channels or that available stocks be used with the utmost economy. Railroad stations were ordered to report their stocks of fuel by 15 April 1950 so that available quantities could be distributed equitably. \*

25X1 \*   Comment. As in the field of coal, where drastic economy measures had become necessary, the situation in the field of diesel fuel seems to have become critical. The reasons for this development are unknown. The production of diesel fuel in the Soviet Zone should be adequate to cover all requirements without any difficulties, but apparently an excessive amount of this production goes to the Soviets for both their own consumption and exports. The reported situation will primarily affect shunting operations and short-distance passenger traffic for which diesel locomotives are used.

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